

MOTION BY MAYOR MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH

APRIL 18, 2006

**HEALTH FACILITY INSPECTIONS**

The State Department of Health Services contracts with Los Angeles County to provide health facility inspections within the county. Under the ongoing contract with the State, the Department's Health Facilities Inspection Division (HFID) is the Los Angeles County district office of State Licensing and Certification. As such, it inspects licenses and certifies hospitals, nursing homes, intermediate care facilities, community clinics, home health agencies, and other facilities requiring a health license and Medicare/Medical certification.

In recent years, the State has significantly reduced funding to licensing and certification state-wide, including reductions to Los Angeles County's contract. This reduced funding has caused a reduction in the number of field evaluators, resulting in many new home health agencies and other applicants waiting for years for licensing and certification.

Compounding this problem, the State expects the HFID to finish its top priorities each year before it will allow HFID to inspect and certify new agencies. This makes it nearly impossible to predict when an agency on the waiting list will be licensed.

**MOTION**

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| Molina      | _____ |
| Burke       | _____ |
| Yaroslavsky | _____ |
| Knabe       | _____ |
| Antonovich  | _____ |

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It is unacceptable to allow a backlog of inspections that result in such extended waiting times for the licensure of quality health facilities that are vital to the health and well-being of our community

**I, THEREFORE, MOVE** that the Board of Supervisors:

1. Direct the Department of Health Services to conduct a full review of the health facility inspection process, and report back to the Board in 30 days.
2. Direct the Department of Health Services, the CAO, and County Counsel to negotiate with the State on amending our current licensure and certification contract (No. 05-45391) with the State, and report back to the Board in 30 days.

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